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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 7 July 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's attacks on southern Lebanon and the Western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the civilian inhabitants in which it engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place in June 1997.

1 June 1997

At 1400 hours an Israeli forces patrol entered Arnun and Yuhmur. They arrested and interrogated seven residents, later releasing four of them.

At 1615 hours outlying areas of Jba', Jarju', Arabsalim and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area came under Israeli artillery fire. At 1625 hours Israeli warplanes attacked the Ayn Bu Siwar hills.

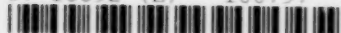
Between 1730 and 1830 hours Israeli warplanes carried out a two-stage attack on outlying areas of Majdal Silm, wounding one person.

2 June 1997

The attacks carried out by Israeli warplanes on outlying areas of Majdal Silm and the Wadi al-Qaysiyah locality killed two residents and injured another.

At 1600 hours outlying areas of Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Arabsalim, Humin al-Fawqa and Ayn Qana, the road between Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita

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and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire. This was accompanied by medium-altitude overflights by Israeli warplanes in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

At 1930 hours outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Sawwanah, Tulin and Khirbat Silm came under Israeli artillery fire.

3 June 1997

At 1430 hours outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Tulin, Qabrikha and Sawwanah came under Israeli artillery fire.

4 June 1997

At 0300 hours the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and its surroundings came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 0900 hours a vehicle was blown up when four explosive charges were detonated on the Zillaya-Qilya road in Western Bekaa district. One person was killed and another was injured.

At 1030 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at low altitude.

At 1415 hours outlying areas of Majdal Silm, Qabrikha, Tulin and Sawwanah came under Israeli artillery fire.

6 June 1997

At 1545 hours outlying areas of Jba', Ayn Bu Siwar and Kafr Killa, the Wadi Jba' area and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under artillery fire. It stopped at 1745 hours.

7 June 1997

At 1020 hours outlying areas of Ayn Bu Siwar and Jarju' and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

8 June 1997

At 0500 hours outlying areas of Frun, Ghanduriyah, Tulin and Qabrikha came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1100 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at medium altitude.

From 1430 hours Israeli warplanes engaged in intensive low-altitude overflights of the Nabatiyah and Iqlim al-Tuffah areas and carried out mock attacks.

At 1530 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at medium altitude.

10 June 1997

At 1055 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at high altitude.

12 June 1997

At 2000 hours outlying areas of Jarju' and Humin al-Fawqa received bursts of sniper fire from Israeli forces positioned on Sujud hill. A field in Jarju' was set on fire.

13 June 1997

At 1300 hours outlying areas of Ayn Bu Siwar, Jarju' and Arabsalim and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under artillery and medium-weapons fire from Israeli positions in the border strip.

At 1640 hours outlying areas of Qabrikha, Majdal Silm, Sawwanah and Tulin came under Israeli artillery fire.

14 June 1997

At 1030 hours outlying areas of Frun, Ghanduriyah, Tulin and Qabrikha came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1940 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju' and Ayn Bu Siwar and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire. This was accompanied by low-altitude overflights by Israeli warplanes in the Iqlim al-Tuffah area. In the shelling of outlying areas of Ayn Bu Siwar a number of homes were damaged.

16 June 1997

At 0850 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps.

At 1330 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area carrying out mock attacks.

19 June 1997

At 0600 hours outlying areas of Mlikh, Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar and Luwayzah and the Jabal Safi and Mlita hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 2100 hours an artillery shell fired from Lahad militia positions on the facing hills fell in the vicinity of Jun in Shuf district.

25 June 1997

At 0730 hours outlying areas of Arabsalim, Jarju', Mlikh and Luwayzah, the Jarju'-Ayn Bu Siwar road and the Mlita and Jabal Safi hills came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1315 hours Israeli warplanes overflew Sidon and the nearby camps at high altitude.

At 2110 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah area at low altitude.

26 June 1997

At 1030 hours the vicinity of Yuhmur al-Shaqif and Mazra'at al-Hamra came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 2130 hours outlying areas of Nabatiyah al-Fawqa and Kafr Rumman and the vicinity of the abandoned Lebanese Army barracks in Nabatiyah al-Fawqa came under Israeli artillery fire.

28 June 1997

At 0930 hours an area near the Sharaf refrigeration plant in the southern outskirts of Mashgharah in Western Bekaa district came under Israeli artillery fire. It stopped at 1010 hours.

29 June 1997

At 1045 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Jiyah and Sa'diyat areas in Shuf district at low altitude.

At 2330 hours an Israeli force tried to enter an outlying area of Mayfadun. It was met by a Lebanese national resistance group, and clashes took place in which all types of weapons were used.

30 June 1997

Between 0700 and 0737 hours outlying areas of Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Mayfadun came under Israeli artillery fire.

At 1330 hours the southern outskirts of Mashgharah came under Israeli artillery fire, and the vicinity of the Muhaydali refrigeration plant was shelled. A vehicle was damaged before the shelling stopped at 1615 hours.

At 1400 hours outlying areas of Zibqin came under Israeli artillery fire and two homes were damaged.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation and these fresh attacks and arbitrary practices inflicted on the Lebanese population, which have left a number of casualties and have caused further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of international law and of basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hicham HAMDAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.